

REMARKS

Claims 1-8, 16 and 17 are pending in the application. Claims 1, 2, 5, 7, 16 and 17 have been amended. Claims 9-15 have been previously cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer. Reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested.

The Office Action objects to claims 5, 8 and 17 as having improper status identifiers. It is submitted that the status identifiers for each of the claims is proper for this Amendment.

The Office Action rejects claims 1-8 and 17 under 35 U.S.C 103(a) as unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,449,624 to Hammack et al., hereafter Hammack, in view of an article entitled "Integrated XML Document Management", January 1, 2003, Springer-Verlag Berlin Heidelberg, Hsiao et al., hereafter Hsiao.

This rejection is obviated by the amendment. Independent claims 1, 5 and 17 have been amended to recite:

"wherein said object is a user defined template that is derived from a preconfigured object, and wherein said existing dependent objects are children user defined templates of said object being checked out or instances of said object being checked out or of said children user defined templates".

Support for this amendment is at page 7 of the specification.

The Examiner admits that Hammack lacks an "object that is a user defined template, and wherein said existing dependent objects are children user defined templates of said object or instances of said object or of said children user

defined templates". The Examiner contends that Hsiao supplies Hammack's deficiency, citing section 3.2.

Hsiao discloses a document management system that provides a repository for documents. Section 3.2 describes a relational database structure of storage of documents and their attributes, such as title, author, publication title, and page numbers. Hsiao uses terms, such as Item, Item Type and Component Type to classify the attributes into a tree hierarchy. The attributes and/or terms are used to access the repository in response to search queries (section 4.3). However, Hsiao does not disclose any term that is a "user defined template that is derived from a preconfigured object" as recited in amended independent claims 1, 5 and 17. Therefore, Hsiao does not supply Hammack's deficiency. Accordingly, amended independent claims 1, 5 and 17 and dependent claims 2-4 and 6-8 are unobvious in view of the combination of Hammack and Hsiao.

For the reasons set forth above, it is submitted that the rejection of claims 1-8, 16 and 17 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) is obviated by the amendment and should be withdrawn.

The Office Action rejects claim 16 under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as anticipated by Hsiao.

Independent claim 16 has been amended to recite a computer readable medium having executable instructions thereon to perform a method that comprises:

"when checking-in an object, determining relationships of said object".

The Examiner contends that Hsiao discloses independent claim 16, citing section 3.2. However, Hsiao's section 3.2 discloses a search process and not the step of "when checking-in an object, determining relationships of said object".

In a search function the items are already checked-in and there is no need to do a check-in. Therefore, Hsiao does not anticipate amended independent claim 16.

For the reason set forth above, it is submitted that the rejection of claim 16 under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as anticipated by Hsiao is obviated by the amendment and should be withdrawn.

The Office Action cites a number of patents that were not applied in the rejections of the claims. These patents have been reviewed, but are believed to be inapplicable to the claims.

It is respectfully requested for the reasons set forth above that the objection to the claims be withdrawn, that the rejections under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) and 35 U.S.C. 103(a) be withdrawn, that claims 1-8, 16 and 17 be allowed and that this application be passed to issue.

Respectfully Submitted,

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